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T.R.A. DOCKET ROOM



August 14, 2003

Mr. Joe Werner  
Chief, Telecommunications Division  
Tennessee Regulatory Authority  
460 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, TN 37243-0505

Re: TRA Docket No. 03-00461  
Section 254(e) Certification of  
CenturyTel of Claiborne, Inc.  
To Receive USF Disbursements  
in Calendar Year 2004

Dear Mr. Werner:

Attached hereto is the Certification Letter of Neil Sweasy, certifying that CenturyTel of Claiborne, Inc. (the "Company") is in compliance with the requirements of Section 254 (e) and the requirements established by the Commission in *In the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service*, CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 00-256, Fourteenth Report and Order, Twenty-Second Order on Reconsideration, and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in CC Docket No. 96-45 and Report and Order in CC Docket No. 00-256 (FCC 01-157) (released May 23, 2001) ("Order") and codified at 47 C.F.R. § 54.314.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (318) 362-1858.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Terrance Hinkston". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Terrance Hinkston  
Compliance Analyst

Encl



August 14, 2003

Mr. Joe Werner  
Chief, Telecommunications Division  
Tennessee Regulatory Authority  
460 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, TN 37243-0505


Re: TRA Docket No. 03-00461  
Section 254(e) Certification of  
CenturyTel of Claiborne, Inc.  
To Receive USF Disbursements  
in Calendar Year 2004

Dear Mr. Werner:

I, Neil Sweasy, Executive Vice President of CenturyTel of Claiborne, Inc. (the "Company") do hereby certify under penalty of perjury that the following is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief:

1. I am the Executive Vice President of the Company;
2. The Company is a "rural telephone company" as defined in 47 U.S.C. §153(37), subject to the jurisdiction of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority;
3. The Company is eligible for disbursements from the federal Universal Service Fund ("USF") as prescribed by the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC"); and
4. The Company will utilize its USF disbursements for high cost support (including any high cost loop support, local switching support, high cost support received pursuant to the purchase of exchanges, high cost model support, and hold harmless support) received in 2003 only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, consistent with Section 254(e) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

Sincerely yours,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Neil Sweasy  
Executive Vice President